

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): An in-wheel motor system having a hollow direct drive motor which is provided in a wheel and whose stator side is supported to a part around the wheel of a vehicle by elastic bodies and/or an attenuation mechanism, wherein

a motor rotor and a wheel or a hub are interconnected by a coupling mechanism which comprises a wheel-side plate connected to the wheel or hub, a motor-side plate connected to ~~the~~ a rotating side case of the motor, an intermediate plate interposed between these two plates, and first and second slide members for interconnecting between the wheel-side plate and the intermediate plate and between the intermediate plate and the motor-side plate, each having roller members whose moving directions are limited by guide portions, and arranged in such a manner that their moving directions are orthogonal to each other;

wherein the guide portions comprise stepped surfaces formed in both sides of the intermediate plate.

2. (currently amended): The in-wheel motor system according to claim 1, wherein contact portions which extend in the moving directions of the roller members and are brought into contact with ~~the side faces of the roller members~~ are provided on the intermediate plate to limit the moving directions of the roller members.

3. (original): The in-wheel motor system according to claim 1 or 2, comprising an elastic annular dust boot for storing the first and second slide members.

4 - 6. (canceled).

7. (new): The in-wheel motor system according to any one of claims 1-3, wherein the roller members are mounted on both the wheel-side plate and the motor-side plate.

8. (new): The in-wheel motor system according to claim 7, wherein each of the roller members has a convex portion forming part of spherical surface.